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Memorandum of Conversation

USSR

DATE: December 30, 1969
Under Secretary's Office
11:00 a.m.

SUBJECT: NPT - Simultaneous Deposit

PARTICIPANTS: Soviet Ambassador Anatoliy F. Dobrynin
Acting Secretary Richardson
Mr. James F. Leonard, ACDA
Mr. Lewis W. Bowden, EUR/SOV

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Dobrynin said he had come to report on the results of the Soviet diplomatic canvass of countries that have yet to ratify the NPT. Out of some 30 governments contacted most had responded favorably, but many could not give specific dates when they might deposit their instruments of ratification. He asked what the results of our canvass had been.

The Acting Secretary said he believed that we could go ahead with our planned simultaneous deposit, our contacts having turned up 24 countries that felt they could deposit their instruments by mid-January. That

LB
EUR/SOV:LWBowden:eb
(Drafting Office and Officer)

Concurrence: ACDA:JFLeonard *by LWB*

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actually gave us six more than needed. We would like some of these countries to act at the same time as we and the Soviets deposit and believe that all parties concerned should have four weeks notice of the specific date we agree on.

Mr. Richardson said that the first week in February 1970 was best for the Secretary and that he would check with the White House to see whether that was an agreeable period.

Dobrynin commented that if 24 countries could deposit by mid-January then the treaty would be ready to go into force. Mr. Richardson rapidly read to Dobrynin the list of 24 countries. [This list was type-written and handed to Dobrynin at the end of the meeting.] The Acting Secretary pointed out that 13 other countries thought they probably could act by mid-January and, therefore, our chances of getting the needed 18 out of a total of 37 possibilities seem very good.

Dobrynin said the first week in February sounded all right to him but he would check with Moscow and would expect word from us if that week posed any problems for the White House. It was agreed that we would get in touch with each other during the week of January 5 to 9 to fix a date early in February if no great obstacles arose to that period.

[Omitted here is discussion unrelated to NPT]

[REDACTED]